

Claims;

1. An electrostatic latent image developing toner which comprises colored particles, comprising a resin and a colorant, and external additive particles, wherein a volume average particle diameter of the toner is $4.0 - 8.0 \mu\text{m}$ and a sum of the colored particles and the external additive particles having particle diameter of at most $2.5 \mu\text{m}$ is $0.1 - 10$ percent by volume based on the sum of the colored particles and the external additive particles.
2. The electrostatic latent image developing toner of claim 1 wherein the sum of the colored particles and the external additive particles having particle diameter of at most $2.5 \mu\text{m}$ is $0.3 - 8$ percent by volume based on the sum of the colored particles and the external additive particles.
3. The electrostatic latent image developing toner of claim 1 wherein the external additive particles having particle diameter of at most $2.5 \mu\text{m}$ is $0.5 - 5$ percent by volume based on the sum of the colored particles and the external additive particles.

4. The electrostatic latent image developing toner of claim 1 wherein colored particles having particle diameter of at most 2.5 μm is 9 percent or less by volume based on the colored particles.

5. The electrostatic latent image developing toner of claim 4 wherein colored particles having particle diameter of at most 2.5 μm is 0.05 - 8 percent by volume based on the colored particles.

6. The electrostatic latent image developing toner of claim 1 wherein the external particles having particle diameter of at most 2.5 μm is 5 percent or less by volume based on the external additive particles.

7. The electrostatic latent image developing toner of claim 3 wherein the external particles having particle diameter of at most 2.5 μm is 0.05 - 5 percent by volume based on the external additive particles.

8. The electrostatic latent image developing toner of claim 1, wherein

colored particles of at most 2.5 μm is 9 percent or less by volume based on the colored particles,

external additive particles having particle diameter of at most 2.5 μm is 0.05 - 5 percent by volume based on the external additive particles, and

a volume average particle diameter of the toner is 4.0 - 8.0 μm and sum of the colored particles and the external additive particles of at most 2.5 μm is 0.1 - 10 percent by volume based on the sum of the colored particles and the external additive particles.

9. An image forming method comprising steps of:

electrically charging a photoreceptor;

imagewise exposing the photoreceptor so that a latent image is formed on the photoreceptor; and

developing the latent image with toner so that a toner image is formed on the photoreceptor;

transferring the color image on the photoreceptor to a image supporting material, and

fixing the transferred color image,

wherein the method employs a toner as claimed in claim 1, and a toner image formed on an image support is fixed employing a contact heating system.

10. An image forming method comprising steps of:

electrically charging a photoreceptor;

imagewise exposing the photoreceptor so that a latent image is formed on the photoreceptor; and

developing the latent image with toner so that a toner image is formed on the photoreceptor;

transferring the color image on the photoreceptor to an intermediate transfer body,

transferring the color image on the intermediate transfer body to an image supporting material, and

fixing the transferred color image,

wherein the method employs a toner as claimed in claim 1.

11. A method of forming a toner image, comprising steps of:

(a) forming a color image on a photoreceptor by repeating steps of, employing a toner having a different color in each step:

electrically charging a photoreceptor;

imagewise exposing the photoreceptor so that a latent image is formed on the photoreceptor; and

developing the latent image with toner so that a toner image is formed on the photoreceptor;

(b) transferring the color image on the photoreceptor to a image supporting material, and

(c) fixing the transferred color image,

wherein each toner is a toner as claimed in claim 1.

12. A method of forming a toner image, comprising steps of:

(a) forming a color image on an intermediate transfer body by repeating steps of, employing a toner having a different color in each step:

electrically charging a photoreceptor;

imagewise exposing the photoreceptor so that a latent image is formed on the photoreceptor; and

developing the latent image with toner so that a toner image is formed on the photoreceptor;

transferring the toner image on the photoreceptor to the intermediate transfer body,

(b) transferring the color image on the intermediate transfer body to a image supporting material, and

(c) fixing the transferred color image on the image supporting material,
wherein each toner is a toner as claimed in claim 1.